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## The Village of South Barrington



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December 14, 2011

Ms. Cynthia Brown
Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W.
Washington DC 20423-0001

Office of Proceedings

JAN 12 2012

Part of Public Record

RE: Docket No. FD35087 (Sub-No. 8)

Dear Ms. Brown,

On behalf of the residents of South Barrington, Illinois, I am writing to you to express our support for the October 14, 2011 Barrington petition to the Board seeking additional grade separation mitigation fully funded by Canadian National Railway at U.S. 14 and the EJ&E rail line. South Barrington is a thriving community of nearly 5,000 residents that is located to the southeast of the EJ&E, therefore a grade separation at that location would be critical for our residents needing unimpeded access to the region's state-of-the-art critical heart care facility located north of the rail tracks.

It is hard to deny that Barrington has presented to the STB very compelling evidence that there were severe errors in analysis when the Board undertook its 2008 review of traffic delay impacts for the grade crossings located in Barrington. Since you have an oversight period that enables the Board to require further mitigation, that initial error can now thankfully be corrected. As a local elected official, I know how important it is for members of the public to have faith in the efficacy and even-handedness of government actions. To the extent that clear errors in

analysis methodology are allowed to stand – especially in light of new 2011 data that confirms the previous error – it undermines public confidence in the Board's role as a regulator.

The fundamental issue here is that Barrington's impacts were erroneously analyzed from the start of the environmental review process. This led to the Board making mitigation determinations based of factual inaccuracies. The traffic gridlock caused by CN freight operations will not rectify itself without appropriate grade separation mitigation, so I ask that the Board use its power to mandate the same mitigation provided to other similarly impacted communities.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Munao Jr., Village President

Village of South Barrington

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have this 12<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2012, caused a true copy of letters from South Barrington, Illinois in support of Barrington's October 14, 2011 petition (STB Docket FD35087 - Sub-No 8) to be served by e-mail upon:

Cunningham, Paul A. Harkins Cunningham LLP 1700 K Street, N.W., Suite 400 Washington, DC 20006-3817

Dold, Honorable Robert United States House Of Representatives 227 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Durbin, Honorable Richard J United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-1304

Hirsh, David A Harkins Cunningham 1700 K Street, Nw, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20006-3817

Kirk, Honorable Mark United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Manzullo, Honorable Donald U.S. House Of Representatives 2228 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Roskam, Honorable Peter J. Congress Of The United States 318 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-1308

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Sogne M. Dear

Suzanne M. Devane